

REMARKS

Claims 16, 18 and 21-23, 25 and 26 are presented for consideration, with Claims 16, 21, 22 and 23 being independent.

Independent Claims 16, 21, 22 and 23 have been amended to include allowable subject matter, as discussed in more detail below. Claims 17 and 27 have been cancelled.

Applicants note with appreciation that Claim 27 is indicated as containing patentable subject matter. In an effort to expedite prosecution, the independent claims have been amended to include the features of Claim 27, in modified form. More particularly, Claims 16, 21, 22 and 23 now recite that the sample points are regularly placed in the form of a grid in the first color system, the surface information of the three-dimensional object consists of triangles, and wherein each triangle corresponds to one combination of the triangles selected, such that a volume of the three-dimensional object is increased, from two combinations of triangles generated in each of minimum quadrangles formed by the selected sample points.

Claims 16-18, 21-23 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In response to this rejection, the independent claims have been amended taking into consideration the comments set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. It is submitted that the claims are now in full compliance with the particularity and

distinctness requirements of the statute. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 16-18, 21-23, 25 and 26 are understood to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Beretta '890. Although Claim 27 is included in this rejection as set forth on page 3 of the Office Action, it is clear from the remaining text of the Office Action that Claim 27 contains allowable subject matter and should not have been included in the rejection.

As discussed above, independent Claims 16 and 21-23 have been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 27, albeit in slightly modified form. It is respectfully submitted, therefore, that the added subject matter renders the independent claims allowable. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicants' invention as set forth in independent Claims 16, 21, 22 and 23 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 18 and 25 and 26 set forth additional features of Applicants' invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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